

MONTANA JUDICIAL BRANCH BASICS

montanacourts.org

Law and Justice Interim Committee
June 25, 2015
EXHIBIT 5

- ☐ CY 2014 case filings
 - Supreme Court: 826
 - District Court: 53,182
 - Courts of Limited Jurisdiction: 258,891
- ☐ 2017 biennium budget: \$101,685,353 million
- ☐ Funded through Judicial Branch budget:
 - Supreme Court, including Office of Court Administrator
 - Water Court
 - Clerk of Supreme Court
 - State Law Library
 - District Courts (including juvenile probation), excluding courtroom/ office space and Clerks of District Court
 - Courts of Limited Jurisdiction: judges' training and court technology support (case management system, computers, connectivity)
- ☐ Number of state-funded Judicial Branch FTEs: 429.83 (2015 biennium)
 - FTE numbers include 7 Supreme Court Justices, 46 District Court Judges, 2 Water Court Judges and the elected Clerk of the Supreme Court
 - Percent residing outside Helena: 81.2%
 - Salary and benefits as percent of budget: 78%
- ☐ Youth Court – CY 2013
 - 4,122 youth referred to Youth Court
 - Approximately 82% of referrals handled informally by juvenile probation officers
 - 79 youth (approximately 2%) committed to Department of Corrections in FY2013
- ☐ Performance measures (data is available on the website)
 - Supreme Court – Bench & Bar survey; employee survey; case flow measures
 - District Courts – Courthouse survey and case flow measures
- ☐ Important dates:
 - July 1, 2002 -- State assumption of District Court expenses
 - July 1, 2006 -- Public defender expenses transferred to Executive Branch

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2017 Biennium Issues

☐ **Technology Projects**

- Development and deployment of statewide electronic filing
- Development and deployment of new version of the trial court case management system – FullCourt
- Replacement and installation of video and audio systems in courtrooms

☐ **District Court Workload**

- Updated study show a need for 15 plus additional judges
- Judicial Redistricting Study Commission
- Judicial Branch planning for new judges

☐ **Criminal Justice and Court Reform Issues**

- Sentencing Commission
- Strategic Planning – Drug Treatment Courts
- HB612 – Child Protection Pilot Project

